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**In the Specification:**

Please amend the paragraph beginning on Page 7, line 11 as follows:

Figure 2 schematically shows additional details of the access system 18 shown in figure 1. Specifically, the access system 18 includes one unit of a family of different types of improved network interface units 26 that provide the necessary physical layer conversions and/or signal processing for transmission across a given network medium 22, and one unit of a family of different types of service delivery units 28 that provide the necessary logic for permitting a given network service to be performed by the network device 12. In addition, the access system 18 also includes a standard interface 30 for logically connecting the network interface unit 26 with the service delivery unit 28. Details of these three different components of the access system 18 are discussed below. It should be noted that in some embodiments, the network interface units 26 may be referred to as network interface modules. In still other embodiments, the service delivery units 28 may be referred to as service delivery modules.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on Page 7, line 24 as follows:

In particular, the network interface unit 26 includes a medium module 32 having hardware and software for implementing the appropriate physical layer and medium control processes required for transmitting data messages across the given network type 22. Stated another way, the medium module 32 implements the underlying specification for transmitting data across the network medium 22 to which it is attached. This functionality is independent of the service being provided by the service delivery unit 28. The medium module 32 may include a single element, or a plurality of different devices/modules for implementing the required function. By way of example, if the network medium 22 is a cable network, then the medium module 32 may include the hardware and software for implementing the DOCSIS standard (see figure 7, discussed below).